

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) An asphalt-epoxy resin composition which contains in the indicated proportions (A) from 75 to 93 wt% asphalt, (B) from 1 to 5 wt% epoxy resin and (C) from 6 to 20 wt% maleic acid modified thermoplastic polymer wherein the total amount of (A) + (B) + (C) is 100 wt%, and wherein the aforementioned epoxy resin (B) is a ternary copolymer comprising (i) lower  $\alpha$ -olefin, (ii) lower alkyl acrylate or methacrylate and (iii) glycidyl acrylate or glycidyl methacrylate, and the molecules have terminal glycidyl groups.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The asphalt-epoxy resin composition ~~according to Claim 1,~~ of claim 1, wherein the (i) lower  $\alpha$ -olefin is ethylene, propylene or butylene.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The asphalt-epoxy resin composition ~~according to Claim 1 or 2, of claim 1,~~ wherein the lower alkyl group of the lower alkyl acrylate or methacrylate (ii) is a methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl group.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The asphalt-epoxy resin composition ~~according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, of claim 1,~~ wherein the epoxy resin (B) is a ternary copolymer comprising (i) ethylene, (ii) n-butyl acrylate or methacrylate and (iii) glycidyl acrylate or glycidyl methacrylate, and the molecules have terminal glycidyl groups.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The asphalt-epoxy resin composition ~~according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, of claim 1,~~ wherein the epoxy resin (B) is a ternary copolymer comprising (i) from 30 to 90 wt% ethylene, (ii) from 10 to 70 wt% n-butyl acrylate or methacrylate and (iii) from 0.5 to 30 wt% glycidyl acrylate or glycidyl methacrylate, wherein the total amount of (i) + (ii) + (iii) is 100 wt%, and the molecules have terminal glycidyl groups.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The asphalt-epoxy resin composition ~~according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, of claim 1,~~ wherein the maleic acid modified thermoplastic polymer (C) is selected from one or more compounds of maleinated polyolefins, such as maleinated

polyethylene and maleinated polypropylene, maleinated ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, petroleum resins produced from maleic acid modified petroleum fractions, maleic acid modified ethylene-ethyl acrylate copolymers, and maleic acid styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene block copolymers (SEBS).

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The asphalt-epoxy resin composition, ~~according to any one of Claims 1 to 6, of claim 1,~~ wherein the maleic acid modified thermoplastic polymer (C) comprises (iv) a polymer of melting point from 80 to 105°C where an ethylene-ethyl acrylate copolymer has been modified with maleic acid and the proportion of said polymer with respect to the asphalt-epoxy resin composition is from 0.1 to 18 wt%, and (v) a maleic acid modified styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene block copolymer (SEBS) and the proportion of said polymer with respect to the asphalt-epoxy resin composition is from 2 to 6 wt%, and wherein the total amount of (iv) + (v) is from 6 to 20 wt%.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The asphalt-epoxy resin composition ~~according to any one of Claims 1 to 7, of claim 1,~~ wherein the asphalt is an oil-extended asphalt.

9. (Currently Amended) Use of ~~an~~ the asphalt-epoxy resin composition ~~according to any one of Claims 1 to 8 of claim 1~~ for pavement applications.

10. (New) The asphalt-epoxy resin composition of claim 2, wherein the lower alkyl group of the lower alkyl acrylate or methacrylate (ii) is a methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl group.

11. (New) The asphalt-epoxy resin composition of claim 2, wherein the epoxy resin (B) is a ternary copolymer comprising (i) ethylene, (ii) n-butyl acrylate or methacrylate and (iii) glycidyl acrylate or glycidyl methacrylate, and the molecules have terminal glycidyl groups.

12. (New) The asphalt-epoxy resin composition of claim 3, wherein the epoxy resin (B) is a ternary copolymer comprising (i) ethylene, (ii) n-butyl acrylate or methacrylate and (iii) glycidyl acrylate or glycidyl methacrylate, and the molecules have terminal glycidyl groups.

13. (New) The asphalt-epoxy resin composition of claim 2, wherein the epoxy resin (B) is a ternary copolymer comprising (i) from 30 to 90 wt% ethylene, (ii) from 10 to 70 wt% n-butyl acrylate or methacrylate and (iii) from 0.5 to 30 wt% glycidyl acrylate or glycidyl methacrylate, wherein the total amount of (i) + (ii) + (iii) is 100 wt%, and the molecules have terminal glycidyl groups.

14. (New) The asphalt-epoxy resin composition of claim 3, wherein the epoxy resin (B) is a ternary copolymer comprising (i) from 30 to 90 wt% ethylene, (ii) from 10 to 70 wt% n-butyl acrylate or methacrylate and (iii) from 0.5 to 30 wt% glycidyl acrylate or glycidyl methacrylate, wherein the total amount of (i) + (ii) + (iii) is 100 wt%, and the molecules have terminal glycidyl groups.

15. (New) The asphalt-epoxy resin composition of claim 4, wherein the epoxy resin (B) is a ternary copolymer comprising (i) from 30 to 90 wt% ethylene, (ii) from 10 to 70 wt% n-butyl acrylate or methacrylate and (iii) from 0.5 to 30 wt% glycidyl acrylate or glycidyl methacrylate, wherein the total amount of (i) + (ii) + (iii) is 100 wt%, and the molecules have terminal glycidyl groups.

16. (New) The asphalt-epoxy resin composition of claim 2, wherein the maleic acid modified thermoplastic polymer (C) is selected from one or more compounds of maleinated polyolefins, such as maleinated polyethylene and maleinated polypropylene, maleinated ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, petroleum resins produced from maleic acid modified petroleum fractions, maleic acid modified ethylene-ethyl acrylate copolymers, and maleic acid styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene block copolymers (SEBS).

17. (New) The asphalt-epoxy resin composition of claim 3, wherein the maleic acid modified thermoplastic polymer (C) is selected from one or more compounds of maleinated polyolefins, such as maleinated polyethylene and maleinated polypropylene, maleinated ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, petroleum resins produced from maleic acid modified petroleum fractions, maleic acid modified ethylene-ethyl acrylate copolymers, and maleic acid styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene block copolymers (SEBS).

18. (New) The asphalt-epoxy resin composition of claim 4, wherein the maleic acid modified thermoplastic polymer (C) is selected from one or more compounds of maleinated polyolefins, such as maleinated polyethylene and maleinated polypropylene, maleinated ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, petroleum resins produced from maleic acid modified petroleum fractions, maleic acid modified ethylene-ethyl acrylate copolymers, and maleic acid styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene block copolymers (SEBS).
19. (New) The asphalt-epoxy resin composition of claim 5, wherein the maleic acid modified thermoplastic polymer (C) is selected from one or more compounds of maleinated polyolefins, such as maleinated polyethylene and maleinated polypropylene, maleinated ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, petroleum resins produced from maleic acid modified petroleum fractions, maleic acid modified ethylene-ethyl acrylate copolymers, and maleic acid styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene block copolymers (SEBS).
20. (New) The asphalt-epoxy resin composition of claim 2, wherein the maleic acid modified thermoplastic polymer (C) comprises (iv) a polymer of melting point from 80 to 105°C where an ethylene-ethyl acrylate copolymer has been modified with maleic acid and the proportion of said polymer with respect to the asphalt-epoxy resin composition is from 0.1 to 18 wt%, and (v) a maleic acid modified styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene block copolymer (SEBS) and the proportion of said polymer with respect to the asphalt-epoxy resin composition is from 2 to 6 wt%, and wherein the total amount of (iv) + (v) is from 6 to 20 wt%.